(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) An evaluation study on Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and AAY was conducted through ORG Centre for Social Research, New Delhi. The Draft Study Report received from ORG was forwarded to the State Governments and UTs for comments.

(b) The main findings of the draft report which varies from State to State was on improper identification of families under BPL and AAY, actual scale of issue vis a vis quantity of foodgrains issued to the consumers, degree of diversion of foodgrains, consumer satisfaction level awareness about identification process, quality of foodgrains distributed at FPSs etc.

(c) The comments received from the State Governments are regarding the sample size taken for the study, period of survey questionnaire used, incorrect datas etc. The comments received from the State Governments were forwarded to the ORG Centre for Social Research for necessary modification in the final report.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The draft report submitted by ORG contained a number of deficiencies. They have been asked to rectify them and submit the report after modifications.

Stopping foodgrain distribution through PDS

530. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to stop foodgrain distribution through the present centres of public distribution (ration shops);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor including the alternative system suggested for public distribution and status of the present ration shops;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase prices of foodgrains being distributed to persons below poverty line;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether steps will be taken to maintain the present centres of public distribution; and

(f) the total number of present centres of public distribution as on today, State-wise and category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments. The operation of fair price shops and their administration is the responsibility of the respective State Governments/UT Administrations.

(f) The total number of fair price shops, State-wise is given in enclosed statement.

Statement

Number of Fair Price Shops in the States

(As on 20.7.2005)

Sl.No.	STATE/UT	FAIR PRICE SHOPS		
		RURAL	URBAN	TOTAL
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	NA	NA	40814
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	NA	NA	1444
3.	Assam	29322	3907	33229
4.	Bihar	28438	13380	41818
5.	Chhattisgarh	6917	952	7869
6.	Delhi	NA	NA	3010
7.	Goa	382	140	522
8.	Gujarat	NA	NA	14131
9.	Haryana	5277	2418	7695
10.	Himachal Pradesh	3835	302	4137
11.	J&K	NA	NA	3927

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Jharkhand	NA	NA	14395
13.	Karnataka	NA	NA	20621
14.	Kerala	NA	NA	14147
15.	Madhya Pradesh	15371	3317	18688
16.	Maharashtra	NA	NA	50160
17.	Manipur	NA	NA	2551
18.	Meghalaya	3655	647	4302
19.	Mizoram	791	237	1028
20.	Nagaland	NA	NA	401
21.	Orissa	NA	NA	25186
22.	Punjab	NA	NA	13874
23.	Rajasthan	15747	5156	20903
24.	Sikkim	NA	NA	1071
25.	Tamil Nadu	NA	NA	27995
26.	Tripura	1248	198	1446
27.	Uttaranchal	6656	676	7332
28.	Uttar Pradesh	56979	17809	74788
29.	West Bengal	NA	NA	20424
30.	A&N Islands	329	159	488
31.	Chandigarh	NA	NA	26
32	D&N Haveli	78	NA	78
33.	Daman & Diu	27	24	51
34	Lakshdweep	21	14	35
35.	Pondicherry	NA	NA	410
	TOTAL:	175073	49336	478996

NA=Not Available

Price of Sugar

†531. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that selling price of sugar for consumers has increased during the years 2004 and 2005.

(b) if so, the minimum and maximum selling price of sugar for consumers in retail markets in the country during January 2004, December 2004 and July 2005; and

(c) the reasons for this increase in prices?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.